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PATENT
Docket No. 206.00300102RECEIVED
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Baumann et al.) Group Art Unit: 3671
)
 Serial No.: 10/798,616) Examiner: Arpad F. Kovacs
 Confirmation No.: 6205)
 Filed: March 11, 2004)
)
 For: DECK ASSEMBLY FOR A SELF-PROPELLED, WALK-BEHIND ROTARY
 LAWN MOWER

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO THE PTO

Commissioner for Patents
 Attn: Mail Stop Amendment
 P.O. Box 1450
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23 August 2004
 Date

Signature: Suzanne E. Olson
 Name: Suzanne E. Olson

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23 August 2004
 Date

Signature: Suzanne E. Olson
 Name: Suzanne E. Olson

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AUG 23 2004

Docket No. 206.00300102

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PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No.: 10/798,616) Examiner: Arpad F. Kovacs
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For: DECK ASSEMBLY FOR A SELF-PROPELLED, WALK-BEHIND ROTARY
LAWN MOWER

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 22, 2004, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II (claims 14-24). Applicants reserve the right to pursue examination of the non-elected claims in continuation or divisional applications.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal or modification of the Restriction Requirement. For instance, contrary to the assertions of the Office Action, Group II is not "drawn to a belt cover." In fact, a belt cover is not even introduced in Group II until claim 21. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn or modified. Moreover, even if the groups were drawn to the subject matter identified by the Restriction Requirement, the invention can be readily evaluated in one search without placing undue burden on the Examiner.

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant(s): Baumann et al.

Serial No.: 10/798,616

Confirmation No.: 6205

Filed: March 11, 2004

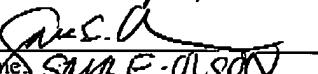
For: DECK ASSEMBLY FOR A SELF-PROPELLED, WALK-BEHIND ROTARY LAWN MOWER

Page 2 of 2

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 23rd day of August, 2004, at 2:15 PM (Central Time).


Name: Sue E. Olson

Date

23 August 2004

Respectfully submitted by:

Mueting, Raasch & Gebhardt, P.A.

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